

Welcome to this edition of University Sport NewZ, a regular newsletter produced by USNZ updating key stakeholders on the latest news in University Sport

## BRIDGEWATER HONOURED AT BLUES

World Champion Rower, George Bridgewater (Waikato University), was awarded the coveted NZU Sportsperson of the Year Award at the annual NZU Blues Awards Ceremony held at Te Papa, Wellington on 14 July.

Bridgewater beat off the competition of 6 other finalists (All Black James Ryan, Black Fern Anna Richards, Black Stick Jaimee Provan, Silver Fern Lesley Rumball, triathlete Debbie Tanner and swimmer Helen Norfolk) to claim the supreme award and continue a recent trend of rowing winners including the Evers-Swindell twins in 2002.



George Bridgewater's mum, Pip, received the 2005 Sportsperson of the Year award on his behalf.

The NZU Maori Sportsperson of the Year Award was won for a second consecutive year by Silver Fern Joline Henry, capping an excellent night for Waikato University.

52 student athletes received prestigious NZU Blues at the Ceremony for their sporting and academic performances in 2005. For a full list, click on [2005 Blues Awards](#).

Mark Inglis, Paralympic silver medalist in Sydney and the first double amputee to scale Everest, delivered the inaugural Curtis McLean Lecture during the Ceremony and captivated the large audience with details of his Everest climb. Double Olympian swimmer Alison Fitch also spoke proudly of her medals at the 2005 World University Games in Turkey and the Melbourne Commonwealth Games.

Alison Fitch on 2005 World Uni Games



The Curtis McLean Lecture - Mark Inglis



The Blues were supported by Curtis McLean and the NZ Community Trust.

## AUT WIN 'THE TROPHY'

Also at the Blues Awards Ceremony, Auckland University of Technology were acknowledged as the first winners of a new University Sport trophy for the overall champion University in inter-varsity competition in 2005. They finished ahead of runners-up Auckland University with Victoria in third place.



## USNZ Events



USNZ's annual snow sports competition will take place from Saturday 26 August – Friday 1 September at the Cardrona Ski Field in

Wanaka. 300 competitors and officials are expected to take part in one of NZ's largest ski and snowboard competitions. A cross country competition is also being offered at Snow Farm for the first time. Click [here](#) for further information including details of how to compete.

## Tertiary Challenges 2006

Tertiary Challenges are social sporting competitions between various tertiary institutions where participation and fun are the focus. In 2006, these challenges are extended across the country having islands divided into 3 USNZ regions held on the following dates:

**Northern (North of Taupo) – 8 September**  
Host: North Shore, Auckland



**Central (South of Taupo) – 15 September**  
Host: Palmerston North

**Southern (entire South Island) – 8 September**  
Host: Christchurch



For more information, click on [USNZ Tertiary Challenge](#)

University Sport NewZ is produced by USNZ  
– July edition issued 31 July 2006

Please email all news and press releases concerning University Sport in NZ to [admin@universitysport.org.nz](mailto:admin@universitysport.org.nz)

## World University Championships 2006

*\*Please click on the FISU event logos for more information regarding each Championship*



### Beach Volleyball

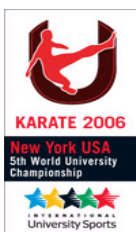
14-18 June 2006 – Protaras, Cyprus

The NZ team had mixed results at the 3<sup>rd</sup> World University Beach Volleyball Champs held in June in Cyprus. The NZ women's national champions – Susan Blundell (Victoria) and Rebecca Reidy (Massey PN) won through their pool play but were defeated in the next round, finishing 17<sup>th</sup> overall. Their 2-0 win over Denmark in pool play was the first victory by a NZ women's team in any senior beach world championship. The men's team of Paul Bowman (Waikato) and Silas Avery (Victoria) had to withdraw from the competition after Bowman suffered a bad ankle injury in their third pool match.

### Karate

4-6 August 2006 – New York, USA

The NZ team to compete at the 5<sup>th</sup> World University Karate Champs has been selected in conjunction with Karate NZ – click [here](#) to view the team.



### Rowing

11-13 August 2006 - Trakai, Lithuania

Following trials at Lake Karapiro in April, the NZ rowing team to compete at the 9<sup>th</sup> World University Rowing Champs has been announced – click [here](#) to view the team.

### Golf

5-9 September 2006 - Torino, Italy

The NZ Universities Golf squad held its selection camp at Wairakei International Resort near Taupo in May following which a team of 8 players were selected and approved by USNZ to compete at the 11<sup>th</sup> World University Golf Championships. View the team [here](#)



### Canoe Wildwater

7-9 September 2006 - Krakow, Poland

2 Massey Palmerston North students will represent New Zealand at the 5<sup>th</sup> World University Canoe Wildwater Champs in Poland. Michael Dawson and Tania Perrett were both awarded with Blues at the recent awards ceremony at Te Papa.

Click on [selection notice](#) for full details.

## Water Skiing

USNZ and the NZ Tournament Water Ski Association had announced a 5-strong team to represent NZ at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World University Water Skiing Champs in Wisconsin at the end of August. Unfortunately the event has since been cancelled by the US organisers – click [here](#) for further information.

*University Sport NZ is grateful to the NZ Community Trust for their generosity in assisting athletes attend these world class events.*

## International

### 2007 World University Games

8-18 August 2007 – Bangkok, Thailand



USNZ has confirmed the appointment of Martin Macdonald as the Chef de Mission (head of delegation) of the NZ team that will compete at the 24<sup>th</sup> World University Games on 8-18 August 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand. Macdonald has managed Athletics NZ teams to World

Mountain Running Championships and chaired the board of the IAAF World Mountain Running Championships in Wellington last year. An accomplished athlete in his own right, Macdonald has set his sights on NZ bettering their best ever performance in Turkey last year.

### Trans-Tasman Rowing

The NZU Rowing team returned victorious from their annual Trans-Tasman test series in Sydney earlier in July. The Kiwis won the tests 3-0 with a race score of 9-3. For full details, visit [NZU Rowing News](#)

## Other News

### Rugby Union

The NZ Universities Men's Rugby Union team beat the touring Japan U23 side 34-5 in their 'test' match on Saturday 29 April; the match was played at the Westpac Stadium in Wellington as the curtain-raiser to the Hurricanes vs Chiefs Super 14 clash.

### Appointment

Mark Christie has been appointed as the new Director of Sport and Recreation at Massey Palmerston North. Christie, previously a senior lecturer at Southampton Institute in the UK, takes up post on 1 August.

### Debating

Victoria University's Debating Club staged the largest ever Australasian Debating Championships (the 'Austral's') in Wellington on 2-10 July. For full details of the event, which was supported by USNZ, click on [www.australs2006.com](http://www.australs2006.com)